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REMARKS

In view of the following discussion, the Applicants submit that the presented claims are now in allowable form.

I. ELECTION/RESTRICTION

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the comments with regard to the allowability of claims 1-4 and 9-13. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, the Applicants have cancelled claims 5-8 and 14-18 without prejudice in order to expedite allowance of the present application. The Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications to continue prosecution of the cancelled claims. Therefore, the Applicants submit that claims 1-4 and 9-13, as they now stand, are in condition for allowance.

II. VOLUNTARY AMENDMENTS

The Applicants have voluntarily amended claims 9 and 13 in order to correct minor typographical errors. Specifically, claim 9 has been amended to recite "an ion beam comprised of ions", replacing "an ion beam comprising of ions". Claim 13 has been amended to recite that "said irradiating step is implemented", replacing "said irradiating step is implementing". The Applicants submit that these amendments address typographical errors only and do not raise any new substantive issues or limit the scope of the amended claims.

III. CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicants submit that all of the presented claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.


If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring the issuance of a final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Kin-Wah Tong, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so

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that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

10/14/04
Date


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